

## The Public Service Commission State of South Carolina

RANDY MITCHELL COMMISSIONER, THIRD DISTRICT CHAIRMAN

May 25, 2006

P. O. DRAWER 11649 COLUMBIA, S.C. 29211 Phone: (803) 896-5260 Fax: (803) 896-5170

John M. S. Hoefer Willoughby & Hoefer PO Box 8416 Columbia, SC 29202-8416

Benjamin P. Mustian Willoughby & Hoefer PO Box 8416 Columbia, SC 29202-8416 Nanette S. Edwards Office of Regulatory Staff PO Box 11263 Columbia SC, 29211

Shannon Bowyer Hudson Office of Regulatory Staff PO Box 11263 Columbia, SC 29211 Duke K. McCall, Jr. Leatherwood Walker Todd & Mann, P.C. Post Office Box 87 Greenville, SC 29602

Newton Horr, President Lake Trollingwood Homeowners Association 131 Greybridge Road Pelzer, SC 29669

Jaqueline H. Patterson Greenville Timberline Patterson & Coker, P.A. 1225 South Church Street Greenville, SC 29605

Dear Counsel:

IN RE: Docket No. 2006-107-WS

United Utility Companies, Inc. – Application for Adjustment of Rates and Charges and Modifications to Certain Terms and Conditions for the Provision of Water and Sewer Service

The enclosed correspondence was received by the Commission on May 25, 2006. Because this correspondence involves a pending case before the Commission I am sending a copy to all parties of record and including it in the Commission's docket file for this matter.

As you all know, the Code of Judicial Conduct prevents me and the other Commissioners from considering information transmitted outside of the record in the case. Please let me know if you have any concerns, or if you believe that any further action is required by me or the Commission as a result of this communication.

Yours very truly,

Randy Mitchell

RM:ng

c: The Honorable Larry E. Greer, Chairman Anderson County Council, District #3 PSC-DMS



Making News. Making Progress.

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Chairman

District 3

Bill McAbee

District 4

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G. Fred Tolly, Jr. District 1

Gracie S. Floyd

District 2

District 5

Council Members

Larry E. Greer

May 23, 2006

Mr. Randy Mitchell, Chairman Public Service Commission Post Office Drawer 11649 Columbia, South Carolina 29211

Dear Chairman Mitchell:

My name is Larry Greer; I am the County Councilman serving County Council District #3 containing Chamber Forest. I am writing you concerning proposed increases in sewer charges by United Utility Companies Inc. This company provides sewer service to the Chamber Forest community in Anderson County. This is a mobile home community consisting primarily of low-income households, many of which are elderly and on Social Security.

I am enclosing copies of the notice that was sent to the residents. You will notice that the company proposes to increase the sewer charge for mobile homes from \$35.58 per unit to \$48.47 per unit. This is an increase of \$12.89 per month, which is a 36% increase in sewer charges for the residents. As I stated previously, these are low-income individuals, many of which are on Social Security. These people will have extreme difficulty in absorbing this increased cost.

As the Councilman representing the Chamber Forest Community, I urge you to use your position on the Public Service Commission to not grant the increase requested. Those affected and myself would prefer no increase at all; however if a rate increase is granted, please consider a much smaller percentage increase.

Thank you in advance for any help you can give in this matter. If I can be of any further assistance please call. My business card is enclosed.

William C. Dees

Michael G. Thompson

District 6

M. Cindy Wilson District 7

Clerk to Council

Linda N. Eddleman

Larry E. Greer Chairman Anderson County Council

District #3

Sincerely.

Enclosure:

rate adjustment letter and business card

LEG/tls

Anderson County All-America City

> Post Office Box 8002 • Anderson, S.C. 29622-8002 (864) 260-4062 · (864) 260-4356 fax

# PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

### DOCKETING DEPARTMENT

### **NOTICE OF FILING AND HEARING**

### **DOCKET NO. 2006-107-WS**

UNITED UTILITY COMPANIES, INC. – APPLICATION FOR ADJUSTMENT OF RATES AND CHARGES AND MODIFICATIONS TO CERTAIN TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR THE PROVISION OF WATER AND SEWER SERVICE

United Utility Companies, Inc. (UUC or the Company) has filed an Application with the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) for an adjustment of the Company's rates and charges and modification of certain terms and conditions for the provision of water and sewer service. UUC is a public utility, as defined by S.C. Code Ann. § 58-5-10(3) (Supp. 2005), providing water and sewer service to the public for compensation in certain areas of South Carolina pursuant to rates approved by the Commission in Docket No. 2000-210-W/S.

Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 58-5-240 (Supp. 2005) and 26 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-712.4.A and 103-512.4.A (Supp. 2005), the Company requests that the Commission approve an increase in its monthly water and sewer service rates. Also, pursuant to 26 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-503 and 103-703, UUC proposes a modification to the terms and conditions under which a tenant will be billed for water and sewer services to comport with current S.C. Code Ann. § 27-33-50 (Supp. 2005). Additionally, the Company proposes to add language requiring its customers to conduct cross connection testing and to add a charge for same if such inspections are undertaken by the Company to meet the requirements of 24A S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 61-58.7.F.8 (Supp. 2005). The Company also proposes to include certain additional terms and conditions pertaining to the extension of its facilities, to include a definition of single family equivalent by reference to applicable regulation, and to delete certain provisions pertaining to payments to defray federal taxes arising out of contributions in aid of construction.

In support of its request for an adjustment in the Company's water and sewer rates, terms and conditions UUC asserts, among other things, that the proposed water and sewer rate increases are necessary in order that it may provide reasonable and adequate service to its customers, comply with standards and regulations set by the Department of Health and Environmental Control and other governmental agencies which regulate the environmental aspect of the Company's business, and earn a reasonable return on its investment and attract capital for future improvements. The Company also asserts that the proposed water and sewer rate increases are necessary to preserve its financial integrity and to permit continued investment in and maintenance of its facilities so as to provide reliable and high quality services.

THE PROPOSED <u>CHANGES</u> IN THE RATES AND CHARGES ARE SET FORTH BELOW (The complete rate schedule is available from the Company at the address below and on the Commission's website at www.psc.sc.gov)

Please back of this page Sarry

#### DOCKET NO. 2006-107-WS NOTICE OF FILING AND HEARING PAGE 3

Any person who wishes to participate in this matter, as a party of record with the right of cross-examination should file a Petition to Intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, on or before **May 22, 2006**, and indicate the amount of time required for his presentation. Please include an email address for receipt of future Commission correspondence in the Petition to Intervene. *Please refer to Docket No. 2006-107-W/S*.

Any person who wishes to testify and present evidence at the hearing should notify the Docketing Department, in writing, at the address below, the Office of Regulatory Staff, Post Office Box 11263, Columbia, South Carolina 29211, and John M. S. Hoefer, Esquire, Willoughby & Hoefer, P.A., Post Office Box 8416, Columbia, South Carolina 29202-8416 on or before May 22, 2006, and indicate the amount of time required for the presentation. *Please refer to Docket No. 2006-107-W/S* 

Any person who wishes to request a hearing in his or her county of residence should notify on or before June 22, 2006, in writing, the Docketing Department at the address below, the Office of Regulatory Staff, Post Office Box 11263, Columbia, South Carolina 29211, and John M. S. Hoefer, Esquire, Willoughby & Hoefer, P. A., Post Office Box 8416, Columbia, South Carolina 29202-8416. *Please refer to Docket No. 2006-107-W/S* 

Any person who wishes to be notified of any change in the hearing date, but does not wish to present testimony or be a party of record, may do so by notifying the Docketing Department in writing at the address below on or before May 22, 2006. Please refer to Docket No. 2006-107-W/S

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE**: Any person who wishes to have his or her comments considered as part of the official record of this proceeding MUST present such comments, in person, to the Commission during the hearing.

Persons seeking information about the Commission's Procedures should contact the Commission in Columbia at 803-896-5100.

Public Service Commission of South Carolina Attn: Docketing Department Post Office Drawer 11649 Columbia, SC 29211

04/21/06 cba